# California Motor Vehicle Fuel Programs: An Overview

Integrated Energy Policy Report June 9, 2003

California Environmental Protection Agency



#### **Presentation Overview**

- Background
- Diesel fuel
- Gasoline
- Alternative Fuels
- Summary

### California's Air Quality Problem

- 24 million gasoline-powered vehicles
- 1,250,000 diesel-fueled vehicles and engines\*
- 34.5 million people
- Over 90% of Californians breath unhealthy air

### California Clean Air Act Requirements for Mobile Sources

- Achieve maximum feasible reductions in PM, CO, and toxic air contaminants
- Achieve maximum emission reductions of VOC and NOx by earliest practicable date
- Adopt most effective combination of control measures on all classes of motor vehicles and their fuels

#### Motor Vehicle Fuels Control Strategy

- Treat vehicles / fuels as a system
  - Vehicle emission standards
  - Fuel standards
- Flexible



### California's Vehicle Fuels Programs

Year			
Adopted	d Gasoline	Diesel	Alternative Fuels
1971	Reid Vapor Pressure		
	Bromine Number		
1975	Sulfur		
	Manganese/Phosphorus		
1976	Lead		
1981		Sulfur (SCAB)	
1982	Lead		
1988		Sulfur/Arom. HC	
1990	Phase 1 RFG		
			Clean Fuels/LEV
1991	Phase 2 RFG		
	Wintertime Oxygenates		
1992			Commercial and
			Certification Specs
1994	<b>Phase 2 RFG Predictive Model</b>		
			LPG (amended)
1998	<b>Combustion Chamber Deposits (amended</b>	l)	
	Wintertime Oxygenates (amended)		
			LPG (amended)
1999	Wintertime Oxygenates (amended)		
			Clean Fuels (amended)
2000	Phase 3 RFG(eliminates MTBE)		
2003		Sulfur (proposed)	

### Summary of Fuels Program Benefits

	Emissions Reductions (tpd)					
Program	HC	NOx	PM	$SO_2$	CO	Toxics
D: 1 (1000)		70	2.0	0.0		250/
Diesel (1993)		70	20	80		25%
CaRFG1 (1992)	210					
CaRFG2 (1996)	190	110		30	1300	40%
CaRFG3 (2003)	0.5	19		4		7%
Total (tpd)	400	190	20	114	1300	na
% Change	15	10	25	80	6	na

## **Overview of Diesel Regulations**

#### California Diesel Fuel Program

- Adopted in 1988
- Implemented October 1993
- Provides flexibility by allowing certification of equivalent formulations



# Comparison of Current Federal and California Diesel Specifications

Property	California	Federal
Sulfur	500 ppmw	500 ppmw
Aromatic Hydrocarbons		
Large Refiners	10 Vol. %	
Small Refiners	20 Vol. %	

#### Applicability

- California: on- and off-road vehicles
- Federal: on-road vehicles only

# California Diesel Program Benefits<sup>a</sup> (tons/day)

Pollutant	Federal	California		
$SO_2$	60	80 (80%)		
PM (Directly Emitted)	4	20 <sup>b</sup> (25%)		
$NO_X$	0	70 (7%)		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Calculated for 1995 Inventory

b Includes hazardous pollutant benefits from reduced PM.

# Average Specifications of Reformulated Diesel Fuel

	Califor	U.S. <sup>(1)</sup>	
Specification	Pre-1993	1999	1999
Aromatics, vol%	35	19	35
Sulfur, ppmw	440(2)	$140^{(3)}$	360
Cetane No.	43	50	45
PNA		3	
Nitrogen		150	110

- 1. AAMA National Fuel Surveys
- 2. For Los Angeles area (Greater than 3000 ppmw in rest of California)
- 3. About 10 % of total California volume is < 15 ppmw

#### **Other Diesel Fuel Activities**

#### **Board Action**

- August 1998, the Board listed particulate matter emissions from diesel-fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant
- October 2000, the Board approved the diesel risk reduction plan

#### Diesel Risk Reduction Plan

- Diesel PM represents about 70% of statewide cancer risk from Toxic Air Contaminants.
- Comprehensive strategy to reduce diesel PM emissions from new and existing vehicles and engines.
- Advised by International Diesel Retrofit Advisory Committee
- Retrofits of existing vehicles and engines are a major component of plan.
- Includes low sulfur (15 ppm Max) diesel fuel for on and off-road vehicles and engines.
- Goal is an 85% reduction in PM emissions by 2020.

#### Other Diesel Fuel Programs

- South Coast Air Basin adopted 15 ppmw S
  - Stationary source, 2004
  - Mobile source, 2005
- U.S. EPA, 15 ppmw S requirements
  - Adopted for on-road vehicles, 2006
  - Proposed for non-road engines

# Proposed Amendments for California Diesel Fuel

- Lower CARB diesel sulfur limit to 15 ppmw
- Implement in 2006
- Apply to:
  - On-road and off-road engines
  - Stationary sources (Air Toxic Control Measure)
- Necessary to implement diesel PM risk reduction plan
- Update diesel certification fuel specifications

### **Gasoline Programs**

# California Phase 2 Gasoline (CaRFG2) Program

- Adopted in 1991
- Implemented March 1996



Limits on the following fuel parameters:

T50

T90

Sulfur

Olefins

Benzene

Oxygen Content

RVP (Summertime)

**Aromatic Hydrocarbons** 

### Typical Properties<sup>1</sup> of CaRFG2

T50, deg F	201
T90, deg F	310
Sulfur, ppmw	22
Olefins, vol%	4.5
Benzene, vol%	0.6
Oxygen, wt%	2.0
RVP, psi	6.8
Aromatic HC, vol%	23

<sup>1</sup> Based on 1999 CEC ARB survey of California refiner's summertime fuel

#### CaRFG2 Benefits

- Emission reductions equivalent to removing 3.5 million vehicles from region's roads
- Reduces smog forming emissions from motor vehicles by 15%
- Reduces benzene emissions by half
- Reduces potential cancer risk from vehicle emissions by 40%

# California Phase 3 Reformulated Gasoline (CaRFG3) Regulations

- Approved on December 9, 1999
- Implement the Governor's Executive Order
- Remove MTBE From California gasoline by December 31, 2003
- Provide additional flexibility to remove MTBE and use ethanol
- Enhance emission benefits of current program
- Accommodate need for imports on routine basis



# Approved CaRFG3 Specifications Compared to CaRFG2

	Flat Limits		Cap Limits		
Property	Current	Approved	Current	Approved	
RVP, psi	7.0	$7.0^{(1)}$	7.0	6.4-7.2	
Benzene, vol%	1.00	0.80	1.20	1.10	
Sulfur, ppmw	40	20	80	60/30(2)	
Aromatic HC, vol%	25	same	30	35	
Olefins, vol. %	6.0	same	10	same	
Oxygen, wt. %	1.8 to 2.2	same	0-3.5	$0-3.7^{(3)}$	
T50 °F	210	213	220	220	
T90 °F	300	305	330	330	

<sup>1)</sup> Equal to 6.9 psi. if using the evaporative element of the Predictive Model

<sup>2) 60</sup> ppmw. will apply December 31, 2003; 30 ppmw. will apply December 31, 2005

<sup>3)</sup> Allow 3.7 for gasoline containing no more than 10 volume percent ethanol

#### CaRFG3 Implementation Issues

- Refineries converted to ethanol-blended gasoline, about 70% of state's gasoline supply
- Rest of refineries to convert by Nov 2003
- Only 3 more major terminals to modify
- Full compliance, Jan 2004

### **Alternative Fuels**

### Alternative Fuel Programs

- As demand for conventional fuels increase and emissions standards continue to become more stringent the opportunities for alternative fuels and advanced technology vehicles will continue to increase.
- Ensure that low-emission vehicles designed to operate on alternative fuels will have commercially available fuels which result in expected emissions performance
- Recognize and encourage certification of lowemission alternative-fuel vehicles

# Alternative Fuels Specifications Have Been Adopted by the ARB

- Fuel methanol (M-100, M-85)
- Fuel ethanol (E-100, E-85)
- Compressed natural gas (CNG)
- Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)
- Hydrogen



#### **CNG** Issues

- CNG quality issues in Southern San Joaquin
   Valley & South Central Coast
  - Off specification CNG can damage engine and increase emissions
  - Off specification CNG limits the expansion of CNG fleets and fueling stations
- Working to provide more flexibility in specifications

#### Summary

- Cleaner-burning fuels are a critical part of improving air quality
- The ARB treats vehicles and fuels as a system
- Fuels regulations provide immediate emissions reductions
- Vehicle emissions regulations provide increasing reductions over a longer period of time
- While conventional Clean Fuels will continue to dominate the marketplace Alternative Clean Fuels have a role to play - Demand for both will continue to grow with time.